IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A FIFO memory device comprising a storage stage and input stage, the storage stage comprising a plurality of static, non-volatile storage elements and the input stage comprising a plurality of dynamic, volatile storage elements.

2. (currently amended) [[A]] The FIFO memory device according to claim 1, wherein the storage stage comprises a static, non-volatile FIFO memory device.

3. (currently amended) [[A]] The FIFO memory device according to claim 1, wherein the input stage comprises a dynamic, volatile FIFO memory device.

4. (currently amended) [[A]] The FIFO memory device according to claim 1, wherein the memory device further comprises means for monitoring the status of the input stage and/or storage stage.

5. (currently amended) [[A]] The FIFO memory device according to claim 4 wherein the monitoring means includes a counter indicating the number of empty spaces.

6. (currently amended) [[A]] The FIFO memory device according to claim 1 wherein the input stage and storage stage are connected in series.

7. (previously presented) An integrated circuit comprising at least one memory device according to claim 1.

8. (new) A FIFO memory device comprising:

a storage stage and input stage, the storage stage comprising a plurality of non-volatile storage elements and the input stage comprising a plurality of volatile storage elements; and,

a means for monitoring the status of the input stage and/or storage stage.

9. (new) The FIFO memory device according to claim 8, wherein the storage stage comprises a non-volatile FIFO memory device.

10. (new) The FIFO memory device according to claim 8, wherein the input stage comprises a volatile FIFO memory device.

11. (new) The FIFO memory device according to claim 8 wherein the monitoring means includes a counter indicating the number of empty spaces.

12. (new) The FIFO memory device according to claim 8 wherein the input stage and storage stage are connected in series.

13. (new) An integrated circuit comprising at least one memory device according to claim 8.